

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

Portland Branch, 1034 SW 13th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97205-1702

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### March 2014

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#### REPORT ON THE FEBRUARY WILPF BUSINESS MEETING

Seven members participated in the February 15 meeting. After hearing the treasurer's report and further plans for simplifying the communication of information coming into the office by mail, email, and telephone, we received a very helpful update on the threatened teachers' strike from Natasha, then turned to discussion of coming events in March and April.

**Rep. Earl Blumenauer's Nuclear Forum:** WILPF and Oregon PSR are helping to organize publicity for this event, originally announced for Tuesday, March 18. However, when it became known that Senator Wyden will be making a Portland speech on that evening (see Calendar), the forum was postponed till April or June. At that forum, Carol Urner will be honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Carol Urner's March Visit to Portland:** The forum's delay caught Carol with an unrefundable air ticket from Santa Barbara to Portland, so she will arrive March 16 for a few days with family and friends. Plans for a no-host WILPF lunch in her honor on Tuesday, March 18, were made during the February meeting. To join us, contact Celeste (503-648-7759 or [celeste@pacifier.com](mailto:celeste@pacifier.com)) by noon on Friday, March 14. See the Calendar pages for details.

**WILPF Visits to Schools That Received Sets of JACBA Books:** After distributing sets of Jane Addams Children's Book Award books to five schools last December, Jane Morgan has scheduled March visits to three of the schools for March. Jane, Kaye Exo, and Mary Rose had delightful experiences in these visits last year (see the May 2013 newsletter), and Jane (503-381-9072) invites anyone interested to join her this year. She is visiting Arleta Elementary at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, March 17; and Ockley Green School at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 21.

**Confirming Membership in WILPF US and in Portland Branch:** Since ballots for the election of a new WILPF US board would be due on March 1, Lucinda clarified some details about sending in our ballots. Turnover at the national office having made it difficult for WILPF-US to maintain its membership database, we have been unable to maintain an accurate list of members in the local Portland branch. Please help us by looking at [How to keep your WILPF membership current](#) on the last page of this newsletter and following the instructions given there. Remember, it is your paid membership in WILPF-US that makes you also a member of Portland WILPF. [Make sure your contact information is current.](#)

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**The next business meeting of Portland WILPF will be Saturday, March 15, from 1 to 3 p.m. in room A301 of the First Unitarian Church, SW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Salmon. Join us at noon for a brown bag lunch before the meeting. Enter through the breezeway mid-block between Salmon & Main; the building is unlocked 11:45—12:15 and 12:45—1:15. Submit articles for the April newsletter to [wilfpdx@gmail.com](mailto:wilfpdx@gmail.com) by March 22 and calendar items by March 25.**

## MY SUPER BOWL SUNDAY ACTION

by Lucinda Tate

On that sunny Sunday afternoon, I prepared to learn something about the world of sports bar patrons. I put on my trusty WILPF baseball-style hat, my overly large WILPF button, my 'Stop the War on Women' pin, and my Peace button. Then I felt ready to engage sports enthusiasts at the Marathon Tavern on NW Burnside & 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue. I arrived there in time to hand out some informational flyers written for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual United Methodist Women's campaign against human trafficking.



The campaign's theme for 2014, "Intercept Human Trafficking," was designed to alert the Super Bowl crowds in New Jersey to the exploitation of vulnerable workers, both male and female, who have been lured to do the drudgery involved in such events. This year WILPF US co-sponsored the UMW campaign for the first time. Since I represent the Portland branch on the WILPF national Advancing Human Rights Issue Committee, I wanted to do my part as a member of its Human Trafficking subcommittee.

My experience was very positive. It opened my eyes to the "hidden shame and fear" aspect of this criminal activity. To my surprise more men than women took the flyer and read it. They said things like "I think those guys should be locked up and throw away the key" and "I wish one of those guys would try something, so I could kick his ass." Few of the younger women took a flyer, and the women who did hardly looked at it. One middle aged woman said, "I don't want to read anything that will be a downer; I want to be happy and positive today and have fun." Most everyone seemed to be in that mood.

At 3:35 PM the Super Bowl game began, so I left my NW Burnside corner and the loud roars from the party-goers inside. I thanked the tavern's security guard for being so helpful and supportive of the effort to educate people about human trafficking. I hope their experience that afternoon was as positive as mine. Go Seattle!!

### YOUTH ENDING SLAVERY [YES]

You may remember YES from articles in our November and December 2012 newsletters. This non-profit founded by students at St. Mary's Academy reports that there are now chapters also at Tigard High School, Jesuit High School (Beaverton), and LaSalle Catholic College Preparatory (Clackamas). During the 2014 Walk to End Slavery, scheduled for May 17, young people will walk a one-mile loop around downtown Portland, bringing attention to the slave labor—often by children—used in producing many of the favorite brands they buy in local stores. Go to [www.youthendingslavery.org](http://www.youthendingslavery.org) and click on Take Action to subscribe to their newsletter and get more information about the walk

### AURORA CHORUS' FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CONCERT

Don't miss it! 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 8. See Calendar for full information.

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*"If you are a woman, if you're a person of color, if you are gay, lesbian, transgender, if you are a person of size, if you are a person of intelligence, if you are a person of integrity, then you are considered a minority in this world. For us to have self-esteem is truly an act of revolution, and our revolution is long overdue."*

Margaret Cho, comedian, activist, writer, producer, actor

# The Global Climate Convergence FOR PEOPLE·PLANET·PEACE OVER PROFIT

by Celeste Howard

That headline is the Earth Democracy banner for a new national and international campaign. It grew out of WILPF's participation in the Earth Day Conference at the Democracy Convention in Madison, WI, last August. Earth Democracy is one of the six issue committees through which WILPF US does its work.

The Convergence is an educational and direct action campaign. It begins with "10 days to change course," Earth Day (April 22) to May Day, and it calls for "a Global Green New Deal including universal jobs, health care, and education; food and housing security; economic and political democracy; demilitarization; and an end to fossil fuel use by 2030." ([www.wilpfus.org/news/global-climate-convergence](http://www.wilpfus.org/news/global-climate-convergence))

An end to fossil fuel use by 2030? Is that really possible? Yes, as Mark Z. Jacobson and Mark Delucchi, research scientists at Stanford and UC Davis, described in *Scientific American* in 2009. (<http://www.stanford.edu/group/efmh/jacobson/Articles/I/sad1109Jaco5p.indd.pdf>) Top climate scientists confirm that the world's energy sources can be shifted from fossil fuels to renewables before 2045. Thereafter, with the ocean continuing to absorb the carbon dioxide already emitted, the climate of the 1980s can be restored by 2070!

It won't require a miracle or big sacrifices, just the political will and the right policies. The shift to renewables can be accomplished by putting a gradually increasing tax on carbon, as almost all economists recommend, and making it "revenue neutral"—returning 100% of the revenue from that tax to households and businesses so no one suffers from the rise in energy bills. Such a *revenue-neutral carbon tax* provides financial incentives to plan for and invest in the shift to clean, renewable energy, letting the market work for the future everyone wants.

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL, [www.CitizensClimateLobby.org](http://www.CitizensClimateLobby.org)) is already building the political will for Congress to create this carbon tax. CCL has chapters in most states and in many Congressional districts. I am a member of the Portland chapter, and that's where I learned the reassuring news that *we can save the climate!* That's why I want you to know about the Global Climate Convergence for People, Planet, and Peace Over Profit. Let's all work together to build political support for a healthy climate.

## WEBINAR MARCH 11: EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN

You can participate in this discussion on the need for women's inclusion in Afghanistan political and security transition processes led by Michelle Barsa, who leads work in Afghanistan for Inclusive Security ([www.inclusivesecurity.org](http://www.inclusivesecurity.org)). Inclusive Security's mission is "to increase the participation of all stakeholders—particularly women—in preventing, resolving, and rebuilding after deadly conflicts." Pre-register for the Tuesday, March 11, webinar (12 to 1 p.m. PDT) at <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/187985998>. The webinar is sponsored by WAND (Women's Action for New Directions).

## A NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A conference on creating a Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East had been scheduled for Helsinki, Finland, in December, 2012, but it was canceled by the US when Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu refused to attend. In December 2013, though, an Israeli coalition hosted a Haifa Conference at which 59 distinguished delegates (27 Israeli, 22 international) signed a petition to the UN General Assembly President and Secretary General that demands the convening of the postponed Helsinki Conference. **To sign this petition, go to [www.change.org/petitions](http://www.change.org/petitions), enter Helsinki conference in the search box and press <enter>, select Haifa International Conference, then click on [change.org](http://www.change.org) at the left.**

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## March 2014 Portland WILPF Calendar

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### VIGILS HELD REGULARLY

- \* **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm** SW 5th & Hall, Beaverton. **Washington County Peace Vigil**
- \* **Fridays, 4 pm** SW First and Madison on Hawthorne Bridge. **Weekly Anti-War Protest** [lonevet2008@comcast.net](mailto:lonevet2008@comcast.net)
- \* **Fridays, 5 to 6 pm** Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. **Portland Peaceful Response Coalition**
- \* **Saturdays, noon to 1 pm** McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvds., Milwaukie, Oregon. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil**

### EVENTS (free unless noted)

[see [www.Trimet.org](http://www.Trimet.org) to find public transportation to all these locations]

**Thursday 6 March to Sunday 9 March: Celebration of Creativity Fine Art Exhibit/Sale**  
Southminster Presbyterian Church, SW Denney at Hall, Beaverton. 36<sup>th</sup> annual event featuring work by local artists. See [www.celebrationofcreativity.com](http://www.celebrationofcreativity.com).

### **Friday 7 March, 12–1 pm: Ron Tammen, “China’s Foreign Policy”**

PSU, Science Building 1, 1025 SW Mill, room 107. Tammen, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, on the consequences of China’s rapid rise as a new superpower for other countries and for the U.S. as it “pivots” to Asia.

### **Saturday 8 March, noon to 2 pm: People’s Hearing on Coal Export!**

Pioneer Courthouse Square. Join Oregon families for a fun, powerful public rally, music, public hearing and aerial art action. For info and to sign up to testify, see [columbiariverkeeper.org](http://columbiariverkeeper.org).

### **Saturday 8 March, 7:30 pm: Aurora Chorus: “The Rising of the Women Is the Rising of Us All”**

First Congregational United Church of Christ 1126 SW Park Ave. An International Women’s Day event, with guest artist Anne Weiss, in a program celebrating women working for peace and justice. [www.aurorachorus.org](http://www.aurorachorus.org) \$12 online; at the door, a sliding scale of \$10-\$15.

### **Tuesday 11 March, noon to 1 p.m.: Webinar: Empowering Women in Afghanistan**

See article on page 3.

### **Tuesday 11 March, 7-9 pm: Race Talks: Dismantling Economic Inequity and Gentrification: The Trader Joe’s, PDC and PAALF Controversy**

McMenamins Kennedy School Gym, 5736 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, doors open 6 pm. Presentations by Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF). A statement on PAALF’s action agenda is at [http://aalfnw.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/PAALF-Statement-TJMajestic\\_02-05-141.pdf](http://aalfnw.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/PAALF-Statement-TJMajestic_02-05-141.pdf). All ages welcome. Free; food available for purchase.

### **Thursday 13 March, 7 pm: Documentary, “The Inconvenient Truth Behind ‘Waiting for Superman’”**

Clinton Street Theater, 2522 SE Clinton St. New York City teachers and disaffected parents counter the 2010 blockbuster film’s promotion of “reforms” that leave them stuck with the same crippling external problems. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLmXV4-CBOQ>

### **Friday 14 March, 7:30 pm: Naomi Oreskes, “Climate Change: Certainty and Uncertainty in Science”**

PSU, Lincoln Hall, 1620 SW Park Ave. Oreskes’ recent co-authored book, *Merchants of Doubt*, shows how uncertainty cast on global warming by some scientists parallels the role of a few scientists in hiding tobacco smoke dangers. Oreskes will be joined by a panel of regional climate experts after the lecture. Illahee lecture, <http://illahee.org/lectures/tickets>, \$20.

### **Saturday 15 March, 1–3 pm: Portland WILPF Branch Monthly Business Meeting**

Room A301, First Unitarian Church, SW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Salmon. Join us at noon for a brown bag lunch before the meeting. Enter through the breezeway mid-block between Salmon & Main; the building is unlocked 11:45—12:15 and 12:45—1:15.

### **Saturday 15 March, 1–5 pm: Community Forum, “Confronting Climate Change”**

First Unitarian Church, SW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Main. A forum for open, respectful dialogue offered by the Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education and Counseling. Please register at <https://graduate.lclark.edu/live/events/21236-community-forum-confronting-climate-change>.

**Tuesday 18 March, 12 pm: WILPF Honors Carol Urner at Lunch/Discussion**

Old Wives' Tales Restaurant, 1300 E. Burnside. Long-time WILPF activist Carol Urner will be in Portland for a few days' visit. She is working tirelessly in the WILPF-US DISARM/End Wars issue committee, whose current priority is a nuclear-free future. To join us or arrange to talk with Carol, call Celeste at 503-648-7759.

**Tuesday 18 March, 6-8:30 pm: Film, "Pandora's Promise"**

Beaverton City Library, 12375 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. A film supporting nuclear power as a fuel source which emits no carbon dioxide. Oregon is involved in a study of modular reactors. Nuclear engineer Adam Bless from Oregon Public Utilities Commission will lead the Q&A.

**Tuesday 18 March, 7-8:30 pm: Senator Ron Wyden, "National Security, Civil Liberties, and the Surveillance State"**

First Congregational Church, 1126 SW Park Ave. Co-sponsored by the Oregon Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society; part of the 2014 Wayne Morse Legacy Series. Free, but space is limited; pre-register at <http://worldoregon.org/events>

**Wednesday 19 March, 3:30-6 pm: Visibility Action, "An Occupation by Any Other Name: Iraq 11 Years Later"**

NE Couch & Martin Luther King Jr Blvd (east end of Burnside Bridge). Peace and Justice Works' Iraq Affinity Group (IAG) reminds Portland that we still have a large presence in Iraq despite the 2011 'withdrawal.' Co-sponsored by **WILPF**, War Resisters League-Portland, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights, & Peace Action Group of First Unitarian Church.

**Sunday 23 March, 10am to noon: JMJ Trio Performing at Anna Bannanas**

2403 NE Alberta. Jane Keefer, Mary Rose & Jim Cook sing and play labor, protest, old-time & love songs for people's tips & delight. Lots of singing along, whistles, dancing, friendly talk, good food & drink. Phone 503-274-2559.

**Monday 31 March, 7 pm: Eboo Patel, "Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Global Religious Conflict"**

First Unitarian Church Sanctuary, 1211 SW Main St. The author of *Sacred Ground: Pluralism, Prejudice, and the Promise of America* gives the next Sewell Lecture in the series, "Speaking of Justice." America is the most religiously devout nation in the West. Will faith be a barrier of division or a bridge of cooperation? \$5-\$20. Info at [www.firstunitarianportland.org](http://www.firstunitarianportland.org).

**Tuesday 1 April, 7-9 pm: Race Talks 2: The Oregon Experience of Asian Americans Old and New**

Jefferson High School cafeteria, 5210 N. Kerby Avenue between Killingsworth and Alberta. Doors open at 6 pm. This new series on the first Tuesday of each month is presented by Portland Public Schools, Office of Equity and Diversity. All ages are welcome.

**Friday 4 April, 6 pm to Sunday 6 April, 5:30 pm: Becoming 'We the People': Finding Our Voices As Citizens**

Tryon Life Community Farm, 11640 SW Boones Ferry Rd. Paul Cienfuegos provides the workshop content, Laurence Cole leads singing, Kelly Hogan uses Theatre of the Oppressed techniques in 'games of dialogue.' Healthy vegetarian meals. Fee \$100-\$300, according to ability to pay. Register at [www.MotherEarthSchool.com/adult\\_education.shtml](http://www.MotherEarthSchool.com/adult_education.shtml).

**Saturday 5 April, 7 pm: Blues Festival, "Healing the Health Care Blues"**

Melody Ballroom, 615 SE Alder Street, doors open at 6 pm. Benefit for Health Care for All Oregon (HCAO) with Norman Sylvester and a host of NW Blues stars performing. Sponsored by Cascade Blues Association & KBOO. \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. [www.hcao.org](http://www.hcao.org)

**Tuesday 8 April, 7-9 pm: Race Talks: Playing the Race Card: An Interactive Game Teaching about Racial Biases**

McMenamins Kennedy School Gym, 5736 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, doors open 6 pm. Speaker: Keisha Edwards, Race and Education Consultant. All ages welcome; food available for purchase.

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**JOIN or RENEW YOUR NATIONAL WILPF MEMBERSHIP, and/or SUPPORT PORTLAND BRANCH**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member:  Renewal:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership includes International, US Section, and Portland Branch (including emailed branch newsletter)

National membership annual dues, sliding scale, \$15 to \$150: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to support Portland WILPF activities, including emailed branch newsletter: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution for receiving hard copy newsletter: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form & check, payable to WILPF, to Portland WILPF, 1034 SW 13th Ave, Portland 97205-1702

FYI: When you send your membership renewal – see options above – the entire dues amount goes to WILPF National; they send us just \$1 per renewal. It is your non-dues contributions to our branch that support all our local work.

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**How to keep your WILPF membership current**

Being a WILPF member means joining the national organization. How do you know your membership is current? If you are not now receiving the national magazine, Peace and Freedom, every few months, and if you did not recently receive a ballot for electing national WILPF board members, you are not listed as a member in the WILPF database. To join, renew or rejoin, go to [wilpfus.org](http://wilpfus.org) Or you can mail us the above form with your dues, and we will forward your membership dues check and info to the national organization.

If you **did** recently receive an envelope from the WILPF national office in Boston, containing the ballot for the national WILPF board, that envelope included a membership form you can also use to renew. That envelope & form may be the only renewal reminder you receive from WILPF.